

**Subject:** The Cedillo Weekly 10/24/14  
**From:** "Gilbert Cedillo" <Gilbert.Cedillo@lacity.org>  
**Date:** 10/24/2014 04:57 PM  
**To:** "mistyli@aol.com" <mistyli@aol.com>



Friends,

The Ebola virus has dominated the media headlines the past few weeks. I wanted to address this issue of our public health and assure the community that exposure to this rare virus disease from Africa is highly unlikely. There should be no cause for alarm.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention states that the risk of exposure to the virus is mainly from individuals who were in West Africa during the current outbreak. This week we received a report in City Council from Dr. Jeffery Gunzenhauser, the interim public health director of L.A. County who assured that although the Ebola is a serious issue, that we are prepared.

My colleague, Council Member Paul Krekorian put it best, "Let's be careful, but realistic. There will be fewer deaths from Ebola in the United States than there will be deaths by people hit by lightning this year."

What we can do as a community to promote public health, especially during the beginning of the flu season is to take precautions to practice good hygiene.

First and foremost, get a flu vaccine as soon as possible, especially if you are at-risk.

Also, remember to always wash your hands with soap and water or

use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer to prevent spreading germs. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.

And finally, if you or a family member is sick or showing symptoms, limit contact with others by staying home and getting rest.

Together, we can maintain a maintaining our public health by ensuring better health habits.

Sincerely,

**Gilbert A. Cedillo**  
Councilmember, First District

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## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

### **Municipal Elections**

On Wednesday, I voted to support bringing to the voters an amendment to the City Charter to change City and Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) municipal election dates to June and November of even-numbered years beginning in the year 2020. The current system fails us, the majority of the population doesn't participate and is left out of our democracy. Therefore it is incumbent for us to change it.

The City Charter amendment will be tentatively schedule to be on the March 2015 ballot once City Council approves the final motion.

### **Foreclosure Registry Enforcement**

On Wednesday in Housing Committee, we moved forward our motion that will amend the Foreclosure Registry Program to required banks and other lenders to pay a proactive inspection fee when a property goes into foreclosure. We are working hard to make sure that we have the proper enforcement and resources to prevent blight in our communities because of foreclosed homes.

### **Food Day Champion**

On Tuesday, we recognized Theresa Farting as the First District's Food Day Champion. Food

Day in Los Angeles celebrated National Food Day with diverse food system leaders and advocates, highlighting the City Council leadership on key food policy issues. We recognized outstanding "Good Food Champions" and "Good Food Purchasers" who bring Good Food to the City of Los Angeles.

This year, our office couldn't have found a better choice than Theresa. She just graduated the L.A. Kitchen's 15-week culinary arts and nutrition advocacy training program and is also the first L.A. Kitchen graduate hire. She is one of L.A. Kitchen's older students who has flourished. L.A. Kitchen reclaims healthy, local food that would otherwise go to waste, and uses it to empower, nourish, and engage the community.

Theresa has overcome all of these barriers and has really gravitated toward using 'food as medicine. Theresa has dramatically changed her diet and lifestyle as a result and she has encouraged her family, peers, and community to make educated food choices and live a healthy lifestyle.

Congratulations to Theresa Farting, our Food Day champion!

## **50K Reward to Find Driver that Killed Gloria Ortiz**

Today, my colleagues will approved a \$50,000 reward for information leading to the arrest, prosecution and conviction of the hit and run driver responsible for the death of Gloria Ortiz.

On Sunday, September 14, 2014, around 7:50 p.m., a vehicle versus pedestrian traffic collision occurred on Avenue 50 and San Marco Place. Victim Gloria Ortiz, a 57 year old resident of Los Angeles, was crossing Avenue 50 at the crosswalk when she was struck by a vehicle traveling southbound. The hit and run vehicle was described as an older model Honda Civic driven by a male, Hispanic. The driver never applied the brakes and fled southbound on Avenue 50. According to witnesses, the driver was possibly distracted by his cellphone.

The driver of the Honda Civic left the scene of the crash without identifying himself or rendering aid as required by law. Anyone with information on the accident should contact the LAPD's Central Traffic Detectives at (213)833-3713.

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## **FIELD UPDATE**

### **Pepperdine University Public Policy Discussion**

This week, I was a guest speaker at the Graduate School of Public Policy at Pepperdine University. We had a lively discussion on the realistic issues an elected official faces when developing public policy at different levels of government. We discussed immigrations as it relates to the California driver license as well as leadership in government.

It was great to be part of the class discussion and I thank Professor Joel Fox for having me.

## Keep it Clean in Glassell Park and Cypress Park

This past Saturday, Team Cedillo together with 200 volunteers from the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council, Glassell Park Improvement Association, Greater Cypress Park Neighborhood Council, LA Conservation Corporation, Northeast Graffiti Busters, Aztecs Rising, PUC eCALS, LA River School, and Eagle Rock Yacht Club had a major clean up that filled 170 trash bags with litter, weeds and debris. Thanks to Super King Markets for breakfast and LAPD Northeast Division for lunch that kept volunteers happy and feed.

## Public Safety Improvements for Glassell Park and Cypress Park Community

To keep our streets safe, we worked with the Department of Transportation on installing a new four way stop at Division St. and Winmar Dr. along with five new 10 MPH and curvature signs on Yorkshire Dr between Moss Ave and Parrish Ave to reduce speeding accidents in areas the community and my office identified needed improvements.

## Cert Earthquake Drill

This past week, over 100 residents of the Jessica Square Neighborhood in Mt. Washington participated in the first earthquake disaster drill for the area. Volunteers from other neighborhoods in the First District also volunteered such as Sycamore Grove, Montecito Hts. and Highland Park. Team Cedillo participated and helped organize the event under the leadership of CERT graduates Nancy Nickerson and Ben Park.

The residents including children, posed as victims with simulated injuries and professional makeup to add to the realism and fun for the day. Volunteers carried victims to triage and learned to make decisions on who needed immediate care and who did not.

Also participating was a team who rescued pets in a disaster drill. Because of the 2005 Hurricane Katrina disaster, many pet owners stayed behind with their fury friends instead of seeking help for themselves. Consequently, drills are now integrating rescues for pets as well.

Our drill included three search and rescue teams bringing aid to victims and teachable moments for all of the participants. When the drill was over all volunteers participated in a self-evaluation of the drill in order to improve and learn for the next one. The day culminated with food, friendship and raffle prizes for all volunteers.

Team Cedillo was proud to support CERT Teams as part of his agenda in making public safety a priority in our District.

## **Burlington Family Apartments**

This past Thursday, Team Cedillo celebrated the opening of the Burlington Family Apartments by Clifford Beers in Westlake. The apartments are a welcomed site that includes 30 units of permanent supportive housing that serves former homeless individual and families, some of whom are living with a mental illness or disability. We welcome the Burlington Family Apartments to the First District!

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## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **Call 311 for Bulky Items Removal**

Call 311. If you want to get rid of bulky items, call 311 at least one day before your regular trash collection day and the Bureau of Sanitation will remove the items for free. Call any day between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:45 p.m. with a list of items you want picked up. You can also download the My311 smart phone app or submit a service request online: [www.lacity.org/MyLA311](http://www.lacity.org/MyLA311)

To be a good neighbor, make sure to contact the city before you put bulky items out on the street or in your yard. You should also call 311 to report illegally dumped items whenever you see them. Once you do, the Bureau of Sanitation will come out to remove the items. This is a very helpful service provided by the city.

Help keep our neighborhoods safe and clean by encouraging them to call 311.

### **Prepare for Flu Season**

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## **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

### **Keep It Clean Fall Celebration**

## Health & Fitness Fair

## Dia de los Muertos

## Marijuana and Your Health

## 24th Street Theatre - 8th Annual Dia de los Muertos

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If you would like to be added to our newsletter or for article submission or calendar events please submit to [Louis.reyes@lacity.org](mailto:Louis.reyes@lacity.org) every Wednesday by 1:00 pm deadline to be published in the upcoming Friday edition. We reserve the right to copy edit or refuse submissions.

This message was sent to mistyli@aol.com by:

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